

Listing of Claims:

This listing of claims reflects all claim amendments and replaces all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application. Material to be inserted is in underline, and material to be deleted is in ~~strikeout~~ or (if the deletion is of five or fewer consecutive characters or would be difficult to see) in double brackets [[]]. Any cancellations are without prejudice.

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) A body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, comprising:

a body having an inner space defined by a hull and a deck;

an engine mounted within the inner space of the body;

a water jet pump placed behind the engine and configured to be driven by the engine; and

a bulkhead placed behind the engine and configured to separate the inner space of the body into an engine room on a front side within which the engine is contained, and a closed rear space on a rear side which surrounds the water jet pump from above and laterally;

wherein a first drain hole is provided in the closed rear space of the body so as to communicate with an outside of the watercraft to cause water to be discharged from the closed rear space to the outside; and

wherein the first drain hole is formed in a rear end portion of the hull and configured to communicate with a groove ~~provided~~ formed on an inner bottom surface of the hull and inside of a chine extending along a longitudinal direction of the body on a bottom surface of the

hull, the groove being configured to extend along the chine and to open into the closed rear space.

3. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 2, wherein the bulkhead is provided with a second drain hole configured to allow the engine room and the closed rear space to communicate with each other to cause the water to flow from the engine room to the closed rear space.

4. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 3, wherein the second drain hole communicates with the first drain hole through ~~[[a]]~~the groove formed on the inner bottom surface of the hull~~provided inside a chine extending along a longitudinal direction of the body on a bottom surface of the hull, the groove being configured to extend along the chine.~~

5. (Currently amended) ~~[[A]]~~The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 4, further comprising:

~~a body having an inner space defined by a hull and a deck;~~
~~an engine mounted within the inner space of the body;~~
~~a water jet pump placed behind the engine and configured to be driven by the engine;~~
~~a bulkhead placed behind the engine and configured to separate the inner space of the body into an engine room on a front side within which the engine is contained, and a closed rear space on a rear side; and~~

a foam structure contained within the closed rear space for allowing a buoyant force to act on the body, the foam structure being composed of a plurality of foam structures and being formed to have a predetermined shape, independently of the body to conform in shape to an interior of the rear space ~~and;~~

~~wherein a first drain hole is provided in the closed rear space of the body so as to communicate with an outside of the watercraft.~~

6. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 5, wherein ~~a plurality of pipes including an exhaust pipe configured to discharge an exhaust gas from the engine are arranged~~ extends through an interior of the foam structure within the closed rear space.

7. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 6, wherein the plurality of foam structures are formed so as to conform to positions where the exhaust pipe[[s are]] is provided and are arranged in a vertical direction of the body so as to be located on and under the exhaust pipe[[s]].

8. (Original) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 5, wherein the foam structure is formed by closed cells.

9. (Currently amended) A body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, comprising:

a body having an inner space defined by a hull and a deck;

an engine mounted within the inner space of the body;
a water jet pump placed behind the engine and configured to be driven by the engine; and
a bulkhead placed behind the engine and configured to separate the inner space of the body into an engine room on a front side within which the engine is contained, and a closed rear space on a rear side;

wherein a first drain hole is provided in the closed rear space of the body so as to communicate with an outside of the watercraft[[],] to cause water to be discharged from the closed rear space to the outside;

wherein the first drain hole is formed in a rear end portion of the hull and is configured to communicate with a groove formed on an inner bottom surface of the hull;
and

wherein the personal watercraft is a stand-up type personal watercraft including, above the water jet pump, a foot deck on which an operator rides.

10. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 9, wherein ~~the first drain hole is formed in a rear end portion of the hull and configured to communicate with a~~ the groove provided formed inside of a chine extending along a longitudinal direction of the body on a bottom surface of the hull, the groove being configured to extend along the chine and to open into the closed rear space.

11. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 9, wherein the bulkhead is provided with a second drain hole configured to

allow the engine room and the closed rear space to communicate with each other to cause water to flow from the engine room to the closed rear space.

12. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 11, wherein the second drain hole communicates with the first drain hole through ~~[[a]]~~the groove formed on the inner bottom surface of the hull~~provided inside of a chine extending along a longitudinal direction of the body on a bottom surface of the hull, the groove being configured to extend along the chine.~~

13. (Currently amended) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 9, wherein a foam structure for allowing a buoyant force to act on the body is formed in advance to conform in shape to an interior of the closed rear space and is contained within the rear space, the closed rear space being positioned at a rear region of the deck and between a lower surface of the foot deck and the inner bottom surface of the hull.

14. (Previously presented) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 13, wherein a plurality of pipes including an exhaust pipe configured to discharge an exhaust gas from the engine are arranged within the rear space, and the foam structure is composed of a plurality of foam structures.

15. (Previously presented) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 14, wherein the plurality of foam structures are formed so as to

conform to positions where the pipes are provided and are arranged in a vertical direction of the body so as to be located on and under the pipes.

16. (Previously presented) The body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, according to Claim 13, wherein the foam structure is formed by closed cells.

17. (New) A body structure of a water-jet propulsion personal watercraft, comprising:
a body having an inner space defined by a hull and a deck;
an engine mounted within the inner space of the body;
a water jet pump placed behind the engine and configured to be driven by the engine;
a bulkhead placed behind the engine and configured to separate the inner space of the body into an engine room on a front side within which the engine is contained, and a closed rear space on a rear side; and

a foam structure contained within the rear space for allowing a buoyant force to act on the body, the foam structure being composed of a plurality of foam structures and being formed to have a predetermined shape independently of the body to conform in shape to an interior of the rear space;

wherein a first drain hole is provided in the closed rear space of the body so as to communicate with an outside of the watercraft;

wherein a plurality of pipes including an exhaust pipe configured to discharge an exhaust gas from the engine are arranged within the rear space; and

wherein the plurality of foam structures are formed so as to conform to positions where the pipes are provided and are arranged in a vertical direction of the body so as to be located on and under the pipes.